

## STAUNTON SCHOOLS TO SEE LAYOFFS



Schools in the city of [Staunton](#), Virginia may be experiencing layoffs as of the next school year, as the school board members struggle to work a \$2.6 million budget gap. Dr. Roderic Owen, a member of the school board, said, "There's been nothing like this in my lifetime, we've never encountered this kind of severe reduction in budgeting for our public schools in this community." According to officials, cuts have been made in every other area, and it has come down to layoffs as a last resort. Superintendent Steven Nichols said, "I feel in light of the present economic situation, I need to be very clear to all parties that the school division is facing some very serious financial issues, and all segments of the school division's budget are 'on the table.'" Nichols has proposed a freeze in pay raises, slashing funds for substitute teachers, as well as decreasing bus routes. Dr. Roderic Owen emphasized, "They will do all they can to put instructional positions towards the bottom, but this is serious." For Job opportunities check out [Employment Crossing](#).

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